

20th October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Just like that, half a term at Selwyn Hall School has been and gone. It feels like yesterday that we opened the front door to children for the very first time. There are no words for how proud we are of the community we have started to build and for the resilience and perseverance the children have shown. Despite the darker evenings and stormy weather, the optimism and joy at school has continued, this week. Yesterday, we played a game, 'the circle' with the whole school and the laughter and fun was magical. This was quickly followed in the afternoon with another game, organised and arranged by the children in Fox class

themselves. This game showed everyone's strengths and areas for development, such as Mrs Bentley's incredible splits and my rather appalling cartwheel!

#### Fox class

I was very proud of my foxes this week, as they participated in our first celebration assembly. To participate in a school assembly can be daunting; and if you have been out of school for a while like many of our children it is especially hard. There were happy songs sung and poems, written by the children, were read. Harvest assemblies are traditionally a time for giving thanks. We, at Selwyn, are especially thankful for the opportunity that we have got; to grow our school with your children at the heart of it. Have a safe, restful half term and we look forward to seeing your children on 30th October as we head towards our third Selwyn month. Mrs Angell

## **Vulture class**

As we come to the end of our first half term, so we come to the end of some of our topics. We say farewell to the Ancient Greeks, as we read our final chapter of Mission to Marathon, and the paint dries on the coil pots students made and decorated, depicting their daily life. Our science topic drew to a close with amazing silhouettes of students faces, containing all the key words they had discovered during our investigations into shadows, English brought us to the end of our study of fairy tales, and poetry writing, which were shared at today's harvest festival. What a wonderful end to the term! Mrs Bentley



#### **Crocodile class**

We have had a busy week, this week. We have been learning our clockwise and anti-clockwise directions and quarter, half and three-quarter turns using the spinning chair. Our crocodile has also been busy eating the largest number. We have been learning about the four countries in the UK and their capitals and been on an autumn adventure discussing the different seasons. Finally, after practicing our handwriting and playing songs on the keyboard, we learnt how to thoroughly wash our hands and danced to Rick Astley, Never Gonna Give You Up. Miss McInnes

#### **Harvest Festival**

Today, we celebrated our Harvest Festival with a whole school assembly. A huge thank you to everyone who donated food to Jimmy's Shelter; I am going to take it there over half term. This morning, we sang 'Autumn Leaves', the children read their poems and we thought about where all our food comes from. We finally shared things that we are thankful for. The children's responses were very moving and included their pets, the teachers in school and sleep! We also heard from a child who said that they were grateful for being at Selwyn as they weren't lonely anymore. Spending time together talking about harvest, thankfulness and celebrating wonderful achievements was a lovely way to round off the half term.

#### **School lunches**

School lunches will resume next half term with the current menu. There will be a change on Monday 30th October, when we will be holding a picnic lunch with sandwiches, corn based snacks, fruit and cookies.

## **Final Thought**

On Tuesday, we had our first group prospective parent tour of the school; we are doing one a month. As we walked around the school, I could suddenly see how far we have come in a couple of months. However much we got the school ready in the summer, it was never a school until your children joined us and they have shaped our school more than anyone else. I loved a conversation I had with a family yesterday when we were talking about things we needed in school: a football goal, monkey bars, a slide! I could literally see the school developing before my eyes. Thank you for all your support, ideas and kindness since we have opened. I can't wait to see what the next half term brings ©

Have a wonderful half term. Rebecca Pine Headteacher

## General School Information

#### Uniform

Prices are:

There is a school uniform for Selwyn Hall School which can be purchased from the school office.

Polo Shirt: £8.25 Sweatshirt: £9.25 Cardigan: £10.25

T-shirt: £ 4.95

#### **School Lunches**

All children will be encouraged to have a school lunch and we will order them one every day. School meals are free for all children at Selwyn Hall School. The menu can be requested from the school office; we are pleased to offer a choice of desserts as part of the meal options and salad and bread are also included as part of the daily meal options and are provided as standard.

There is also an allergen matrix for the menu choices

Please talk to your children about the menu as we will be putting orders in every morning by 9.15am. Children will be eating their lunch with the adults in school at 12pm.

Thank you.

### Term dates for the academic year 2023-2024

#### Autumn Term 2023

School Closed for Staff Training School Closed for Staff Training

Autumn Term begins

Autumn Half Term

Last Day of Autumn Term

## Spring Term 2024

Spring Term begins

Spring Half Term

Last Day of Spring Term

# Summer Term 2024

Summer Term begins

School Closed May Bank Holiday

School Closed for Staff Training

Summer Half Term

Last Day of Summer Term

School Closed for Staff Training

Friday 1st September 2023

Monday 4th September 2023

Tuesday 5th September 2023

Monday 23rd to Friday 27th October 2023

Wednesday 20th December 2023

Thursday 4th January 2024

Monday 19th to Friday February 2024

Thursday 28th March 2024

Monday 15th April 2024

Monday 6th May 2024

Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May 2024

Thursday 23rd and Friday 24th May 2024

Friday 19th July 2024

Monday 22nd July 2024